



Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601
(410) 822-0293

JUNE 2004 NEWSLETTER

If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person.

If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house.

If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

Chinese proverb

submitted by Frank Ziegler

WHAT'S NEW?



Max's welcoming committee - a new Friend being welcomed to Third Haven. Left to right are: Sam Mullen; Emma Liebman ; Max McCall; Atticus Liebman; Jacob Mullen and Nathan Mullen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 6, 2004 (first day)

Don't miss our First Annual Family Picnic after meeting for worship and moving up ceremony.

June 5 & 6

Ride Across Maryland with Delmarva Lady Cruisers, a chapter of WOMEN ON WHEELS, from Columbia, Maryland to Deep Creek Lake in Garrett County. All funds collected benefit THE SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION. Donations to "Ride Across Maryland Foundation" - Contact Dee Rein, 9249 High Banks Drive, Easton, Md. 21601.

June 9 (fourth day)

Property and Grounds will meet at 6:00 pm in the Common Room following the rise of meeting. We will end promptly at 7:30.

**The Carriage Shed Sale is a
Success with over \$6,000
raised by First Day School!**

See more photos inside



June 2004

THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING FOR BUSINESS

MINUTES OF THE 5TH MONTH 9TH, 2004

Attending: Monimia Barker, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Mary Cotton, Joe Davis, Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Ginger Howell, Susan Leibman, Robert Marshall, Valerie Mazur, Nancy Mullen, Peggy Paul, John Schreiner, Karen Stoker, Norval Thompson, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler. Clerk of the Meeting, Marsie Hawkinson. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship.

Query for Fifth Month: The query had been read during Meeting for Worship. The Clerk asked for additional reflections. A Friend offered that on previous readings of the query, she had heard a tension between public and Quaker education, but today felt an emphasis on support for education in general and not on one or the other. Another Friend suggested that Friends with a concern for education consider becoming mentors.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 4th Month 2004 Meeting for Business were approved without changes.

Clerk's Correspondence: The next Clerks' meeting will be held this Wednesday at 6 pm in the common room.

Meeting Treasurer Joe Davis gave the Treasurer's Report. During 4th Month 2004, the meeting received donations of \$1,830.27 and paid expenses of \$5,915.26. If contributions continue at the present pace, we should meet our budget for this year. Total assets as of 4th Month 30th, 2004 were \$62,761.13, with liabilities totaling \$4198.47. Joe noted that \$100.00 from the contingency fund was sent to Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting. Reviewing the detailed Budget vs. Actual YTD figures, a Friend queried about apparent overspending in the "Resale Items Purchased" category. Joe explained that larger than expected expenses were due to restocking supplies of *Faith & Practice* and Third Haven notecards. A Friend expressed the thanks of the meeting to Joe for presenting so much information so clearly. The Meeting APPROVED the report.

Budget & Finance Committee Clerk Larny Claggett presented the proposed preliminary

budget for the 2004/2005 fiscal year. The proposed budget total (\$52,625) is roughly the same as last year's total, although distributions differ. A pie graph chart illustrated that roughly half of the Meeting's proposed budget is designated for the Property & Grounds committee. The 7.3% budget increase requested by the committee is necessary to cover an increase in the insurance premium for the caretakers and the rising cost of utilities. The Meeting's \$3,000 contingency fund is also mostly (approximately two-thirds) earmarked for Property & Grounds. Contributions to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) and other organizations represent approximately 30% of the budget. The percentage designated for Meeting committees in the proposed budget is smaller, representing perhaps 10% of the entire budget, but is in line with actual expenditures and the financial needs identified by committee clerks.

A Friend recalled Bill Lane's report from the **Trustees** at last month's Meeting for Business, and wondered about guidance for financial contributions. Ought Friends to divide their financial contributions between the Meeting and the Trustees, and if so, how? How are the Trustees related to the day-to-day life of the Meeting? Marsie explained that the Trustees hold title to the property, and are an incorporated body capable of holding liability insurance. The Trustees have money separate from that of the Meeting, and have historically invested in "capital improvements" while the "operating expenses, "such as utilities, are the responsibility of the Monthly Meeting. Friends feel that it would be helpful to have a delineation of the responsibilities between the Trustees and the Property & Grounds Committees, since a budget to protect the physical infrastructure is needed and coordination would be helpful. For example, it was not clear which body would be responsible for needed repairs to the roof of the old Meetinghouse. A Trustee present indicated that the Trustees intend to replace the roof. One Friend wondered if the responsibilities of the Property & Grounds committee might be

June 2004

MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES,
CONTINUED

taken entirely under the Trustee's care, but most Friends felt comfortable tasking a small group to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each body. The Clerk will arrange a meeting of the Budget & Finance committee, the Clerk of Property & Grounds committee, and representatives from the Trustees. The meeting APPROVED this approach. Another Friend offered that \$3000.00 of contingency funds may not be enough for large items or repairs. Perhaps the Trustees and the Meeting could agree upon an amount for the contingency fund which seems reasonable for the Meeting to maintain, and expenses above this amount could be referred to the Trustees for assistance. The Meeting APPROVED the preliminary budget. *Friends are reminded to review the newsletter for the details of the proposed budget so that they can be prepared to discuss it at next month's Meeting for Business.*

Worship & Ministry Committee Clerk Bob Marshall requested expansion of the committee by two or three members. Several current members are either inactive or come from a distance, and achieving a critical mass at committee meetings is proving difficult. The Meeting APPROVED this request. Bob will forward some suggestions for members to the clerk of the Nominating Committee. The committee has felt that an adult discussion on the topic "to love and to disagree" might be helpful to the Meeting, and perhaps preparatory for understanding some of the Meeting's past tensions. The Meeting APPROVED holding a discussion on this topic. Finally, the committee continues an ongoing discussion of the job description of the Worship & Ministry committee, taking guidance from *Faith & Practice*. The committee is concerned about being perceived as the "police" of the meeting, and continues to explore the concept of "eldering." A Friend shared that she holds the committee in the

light with genuine concern for the important work that they do in seeing and encouraging the gifts we bring as individuals. The Clerk expressed the thanks of the Meeting for the committee's work.

Peggy Paul reported that **Overseers** meets on the last 1st day of each month, at 9:00 am.

Testimonies & Concerns: Lorraine Claggett, Clerk of the committee, encouraged Friends to explore the fair trade items that will be available at Southern Quarterly Meeting (SQM) next week. The Meeting's conference budget is underspent; Friends and particularly families are encouraged to apply to the Meeting for assistance to attend this summer's Friends General Conference gathering or sessions at Pendle Hill. Valerie Mazur asked for the Meeting's approval to use the buildings and grounds of Third Haven for a week-long summer camp for the Meeting's children. The camp would run July 26-30, from approximately 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and would have need of the common room, bathrooms in the brick meetinghouse, and the old meetinghouse for daily worship. The Meeting APPROVED use of the grounds. Volunteers are needed as teachers and "friendly presences," with a goal of one adult and an assistant per 10 children. Interested volunteers and families with children may contact Nancy Mullen. The soup kitchen is closed for the summer. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 19, at which time the committee will consider the testimony of community.

Susan Claggett reported for the **First Day School committee**. The Carriage Shed sale is scheduled for May 22. Help is needed, especially the day of the sale; a sign-up sheet is located in the common room. June 6 will be "moving up day" for those graduating 8th grade, high school, and college. A covered dish picnic is planned; a volunteer is needed to coordinate games for all ages. June 13 will be the last day of First Day School before the summer break.

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MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES,
CONTINUED

Southern Quarterly Meeting gathers at Third Haven next week; please bring dishes for the potluck lunch and come prepared to help set up and clean up, as Hospitality co-Clerk Ann Williams is away. SQM recording clerk Susan Claggett asked for a volunteer to take the minutes of next week's session, as she will also be away. The speaker will be a Quaker political cartoonist. A Friend wondered whether local cartoonist Rick Kollinger had been invited to attend; after some discussion, Friends were clear to ask Testimonies & Concerns committee to extend an invitation to him.

Condensed minutes from **PYM Interim Meeting** were distributed by electronic mail about two weeks ago.

Library & Outreach Committee Clerk Frank Zeigler reported that various changes are being undertaken by the committee, and promised a full report in September.

Property & Grounds Committee Clerk John Schreiner thanked Friends for a successful spruce-up day on April 24, 2004. Many Friends participated and much was accomplished. The committee meets next on June 9, 5:00 pm in the common room.

Communications Committee: Clerk of the committee Norval Thompson reported that problems are still being encountered with posting new items to the web site. He is hopeful these issues will be resolved shortly. The next meeting of the committee is not yet scheduled, but will be announced by electronic mail.

No further business appearing, Friends concluded with a period of worship, purposing to meet next on 6th Month 13th, 2004. *Respectfully submitted, Susan Leibman Assistant Recording Clerk Third Haven Friends*

PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING NOTICES

Annual Fund Drive Final Month: \$160,000 still needed.

Financial Assistance for Aging Friends: contact Phil Mullen, 215-241-7235 or philm@pym.org

Young Adults Eligible for PYM Grants: Contact: friendsinstitute@pym.org to request a complete copy of the guidelines.

New Friends Funding Directory Available Contact: Claire Anastase at 215-241-7218 or clairea@pym.org.

Inquirers' Weekend on Basic Quakerism, June 25-27 at Pendle Hill, Wallingford, PA. Pendle Hill matches Friends Meetings' grants. Contact registrar@pendlehill.org - (610) 566-4507 ext. 142.

Arch Street Meeting House Anniversary Sunday, June 27, 2004, 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact www.archstreetfriends.org.

Fellowship of Friends of African Descent 2004 Annual Gathering July 15-18 at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia,. www.fellowshipoffriendsof african descent.org or deborahsaunders1@aol.com or (856) 435-1645.

Peace Potluck Picnic July 17, 4 to 7 p.m., Cinnaminson, New Jersey. Contact: Joan Broadfield 215-241-7240 or Suzanne Day, 856-829-7034.

Arts Camp August 8-15. Middle School Friends Burlington Conference Center. Contact: melanied@pym.org Melanie Douty, Program Coordinator

Youth Think Tank August 15-21, at Friends Workcamp Center in West Philadelphia includes fieldtrips around Philadelphia area. Cost, \$200, Financial aid available. Apply by June 1. Contact Arin Ahlum Hanson at 215-241-7236 or arin@pym.org.

August 20-21-Conflict Resolution Training for Teachers:, at Friends Center in Philadelphia. Contact Helen Fields helenfields@pym.org or 215-241-7008.

June 2004

SOUTHERN QUARTERLY MEETING

MINUTES--MAY 16, 2004

Southern Quarter met for worship at Third Haven Monthly Meeting on the appointed day and hour with the monthly meetings represented by the following numbers: Camden - 13; Chester River - 8; Third Haven - 23; Wicomico River - 9.

-Following a talk by Signe Wilkensen and lunch, a smaller group of 24 met for business. Martha Hawkinson served as clerk and Lorraine Claggett as recording clerk.

-Following opening worship the minutes of the Southern Quarter meeting of January 18, 2004, were approved.

Reports from the monthly meetings were heard and are attached.

Old Business

Millington Cemetery Neil Holzman of Camden Meeting reported that a survey is needed to establish the record of ownership and legal status of the property. This could begin when the cost of \$700 is met. As Wicomico River and Chester River meetings have already included a one quarter share of the cost in their budgets, the other two meetings will report back to Neil Holzman in the near future on their participation. The next steps will include involving the community in the clean-up process, bringing in a specialist from the Maryland Historical Society to document the graveyard's history, and establishing a partnership with the current users of the property so that they may continue to receive benefit. It was asked if the Mayor and town council have been consulted concerning their interest in the property and they have not as yet. The question of the upkeep of the property was raised and answered by the hope of continuing in good relationship with the town and the enterprises bordering the small plot. The preservation of the cemetery will not only serve an historical end, but also one of community outreach and possibly ecumenical outreach. A friend suggested that one meeting take possession of the deed and pursuant care of the property as this matter has been coming before the

Half-Yearly and now Quarterly meeting for more than thirty years without resolution.

Recognizing and Nurturing Our Spiritual Gifts Workshop. Toby Sterling of Wicomico River reported that this inspiring morning meeting at Wicomico River with a gifted leader, Wade Wright, Regional Secretary for Upper Susquehanna Quarter, did not leave sufficient time to explore the subject. In the future she hoped for Quarter workshops and retreats of longer length in a more central location.

Southern Quarter Peace and Concerns Committee. -Lorraine Claggett of Third Haven reported for the committee that vigils, witness and memorial processions already described in the monthly meeting's reports have been important components of the Quarter's actions in the past months.

The committee wishes to have the Quarter take on a project which witnesses to our faith and concern. Suggestions from the committee are: a Fair Trade products sale and educational effort within meetings and/or their communities, possibly at Christmas for present-giving; an adopt a legislator campaign as promoted by the FCNL,; working together on the long-term issue of eliminating nuclear weapons, using resources of FCNL and the working group of PYM,. A suggestion from a friend was to adopt a re-entry program for prisoners. Suggestions were received favorably without action taken.

The committee recommended the endorsement of Chester River's minute of support for their member Elizabeth Janssen Koopman in her work on behalf of Americans Indians and those imprisoned, which is attached. It was approved by the Quarter to be sent to Yearly Meeting for approval there.

The Memorial Procession to Dover Air Force Base which started at Camden Meeting and the Chestertown interfaith Vigil organized by Chester River Meeting were described in more detail as vibrant expressions of faith, well received, with good press, that served as excellent outreach.

Third Haven Friends Meeting

June 2004

Regional Coordinator's Report

Dana McCabe included in current projects the interest survey, a packet of outreach activities, a brochure on Quakers for community distribution, and the annual calendar. Future events will be: a Beach Stewardship Weekend on August 7&8th; fall Quarterly gathering at Wicomico River on October 17, with a theme of the peace testimony. Her new email address is: sqm@friendsmedia.org

Annual Quarter Financial Planning-PYM will need to ask the Quarter to fund \$1,000 for the regional coordinator in the next fiscal year. A question was raised as to how it should be apportioned between Meetings, considering the disparity in membership among them. It has been the custom to divide costs equally; but should a division on the basis of Meeting's resources be considered? Representatives present asked to take the issue to their separate monthly meetings before a decision is made.

-John Shuford shared his experience of the vitality and increased energy Camden Meeting has experienced since it began a process of looking at the spiritual life of the meeting, especially the depth that clearness committees for membership have adopted in searching with prospective members their understanding of the testimonies, the Quaker process, the historical roots of our faith. Camden has seven new members.

-Neil Holzman of Camden Meeting requested Quaker participation in Cadbury, a new senior living project in Lewes, Delaware.

-Peggy Paul, of Whittier Meeting, California, was welcomed. She gave news of Ramallah Friends School, Palestine, where she taught some years ago.

-The meeting closed in worship, holding our friend Frank Zeigler in the light, to convene next on First day, October 17, at Wicomico River.

-Submitted by Lorraine B. Claggett, Acting Secretary



Winslow Womack sells his inimitable Quaker Dogs



Paige, were you looking for some bargains?

June 2004

A PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES USA

Editor's Note: The following is the text from a letter signed by Friend Thom Jeavons, General Secretary of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and 20 other ecumenical leaders. The full letter may be seen at <http://www.nccusa.org/news/04iraqpastoralletter.html>

May 11, 2004

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ!

We, leaders of the thirty-six member communions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, write this joint pastoral letter at a time when the threat of violence hangs over the earth and warfare involving United States forces is increasing in Iraq. We write out of a deep love for this country, but also out of a profound concern at the direction this cycle of violence is taking us. This concern has been brought home to all Americans and indeed the world in the horrific pictures of prisoner abuse.

Two central claims of the Christian faith are crucial in our thinking: that every person, as a child of God, is of infinite worth; and that all persons, as participants in God's one creation, are related in their humanity and vulnerability. This is why the World Council of Churches has asserted that "war is contrary to the will of God" - because it destroys that which God has made sacred.

In a sinful world, some of us may hold that there may be times when war is a necessary evil. But Christians should never identify violence against others with the will of God and should always work to prevent and end it.

We believe, with these things in mind, that the guiding principle of U.S. foreign policy must be to build up the whole, interdependent human family and to promote reconciliation whenever possible. Yes, this means standing firmly against all acts of terror, but it also means envisioning a world in which war is truly a last resort.

Current U.S. foreign policy, however, is not aligned with this principle. Many people see our policy as one based on protection of our country's

economic interests narrowly defined, rather than on principles of human rights and justice that would serve our nation's interests in deep and tangible ways. We are convinced that current policy is dangerous for America and the world and will only lead to further violence.

We, therefore, call for a change of course in Iraq, and we encourage you to do the same. Specifically, we are calling upon our country to turn over the transition of authority and post-war reconstruction to the United Nations - and to recognize U.S. responsibility to contribute to this effort generously through security, economic, and humanitarian support - not only to bring international legitimacy to the effort, but also to foster any chance for lasting peace. We would ask that members of our churches, as they feel appropriate, contact their respective congressional delegations to urge the U.S. to change course in Iraq.

We certainly recognize that faithful Christians of good will may disagree with one another when it comes to questions of national policy. We trust, however, that all Christians will pray and work for peace, remembering the words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

We also urge all of our congregations and parishes to pray not only for the soldiers of this nation, as we surely do, but for all people, military and civilian, caught in this and other cycles of violence. When possible, join in prayer, discussion, and action with ecumenical and interfaith neighbors. Materials to assist in this are available from many of our churches and from the National Council of Churches.

As ecumenical partners, we know that it is a scandal that the body of Christ remains so visibly divided, often by those things that divide the world. Let us, however, be united as followers of Christ in our hope for that day when swords are beaten into plowshares and mourning and crying and pain will be no more!

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

June 2004

Thanks from Friends for Third Haven Meeting's Spring Spruce-up Day (with apologies for those over-looked by failing memory):

About 35 souls, young and older, showed up and lent a hand to brighten up our surroundings both inside and out Saturday, April 24th. The weather was super, lending brightness to the tasks. There to pitch in were:

Susan Claggett, Ralph Young, Sam Webster, Nancy and Mike Mullen with Jake, Sam and Nathan, Ginger Howell*, Bob Kemp, Beth and Charlie Mufson, Craig Smith*, Al Bond, Marsie and John Hawkinson, Tylor Wrightson, Valerie Mazur, Doreen Getsinger, Clay Owen, Peggy Paul, Larnie Claggett, Paige and Brandt Bethke, Pete Curtis, Ann Williams*, Jim Paul, Meredith

Watters*, Peggy Walbert, Christin Dickey, Winslow Womack*, Rob* and Matthew Wieland and John Schreiner.

*Special mention: Ginger led the pack, shaped up the kitchen and organized duty posters around the property. Craig not only came and worked his chainsaw magic and round-up sprayer but also returned later to bush-hog the back acres. Ann was there at 7:30 with smiles, juices and delicious snacks for us all. Meredith called to offer hours of landscaping help at a future date. Winslow beat us all to the punch by painting the exterior trim on all the Common Room windows a week ahead! Rob and his son contributed 10 new bald cypress trees and planted them all along the northern fence line.

GETTING TO KNOW FRIENDS



Paige Russell Bethke, member of Third Haven Friends since 1984, currently serves as Clerk for Overseers. She came to the Eastern Shore from the Olney-Sandy Spring area where she attended Sandy Spring Friends Meeting and her mom and dad still have their home. She came to Quakerism when her family began attending Westfield Friends Meeting in Cinnaminson New Jersey and she requested Membership in 1969. Paige is Brandt's mom and they stay busy with Little League, swim team and soccer. Paige loves to organize and work on the Carriage Shed Sale, even though the Carriage Shed is no more, and believes it is a great way to clean house and share resources. She enjoys knitting sweaters for friends and family, likes most outdoor activities and welcomes the opportunity to visit with friends.

QUICK QUAKER QUOTE

Dig deep...carefully cast forth the loose matter and get down to the rock, the sure foundation, and there hearken to the divine voice which gives a clear and certain sound.

John Woolman, c. 1770

Sign Up for Hospitality

Whether its lemonade, peanut butter and crackers or just plain good talk, we'd love to see you there!

June 2004

TESTIMONIES ON COMMUNITY

Submitted by Lorraine B. Claggett

The nature of their purpose and quest as Friends binds members of a Meeting and of the whole Society into an intimate fellowship whose unity is not threatened by the diversity of leadings and experiences which may come to individual Friends. To share in the experience of the Presence in corporate worship, to strive, conscious that together Friends are also striving, to let the Divine Will guide one's life, to live in a sense of unfailing Love reaching out to the stumbling followers of Christ is to participate in a spiritual adventure in which Friends come to know one another and to respect one another at a level where superficial differences of age or sex, of wealth or position, of education or vocation, of race or nation are all irrelevant. Within this sort of fellowship, as in a family, grief and joy, fears and hopes, failures and accomplishments are naturally shared, even as individuality and independence are scrupulously respected.

New England Yearly Meeting, 1966

Membership in the Religious Society of Friends involves continuing commitment. It implies a readiness and desire to join in the common effort of the Society to seek and follow the Inner Light, as well as some experience and understanding of that Spirit as it is known by Friends—a reality which guides and directs, which gives strength to act upon this guidance and which brings unity with the spirit of God. Decision-making by Friends depends upon a common understanding of the guidance of the Spirit as they unite in worship for Meeting for Business.

North Pacific Yearly Meeting, 1993

Our Society arose from a series of mutual discoveries of men and women who found that they were making the same spiritual pilgrimage. This is still our experience today. Even at times of great difference of opinion, we have known a sense of living unity, because we have recognized one another as followers of Jesus. We are at different stages along the way. We use different language to speak to him and to express our discipleship. The insistent questioning of the

seeker, the fire of the rebel, the reflective contribution of the more cautious thinker—all have a place amongst us. This does not always make life easy. But we have found that we have learned to listen to one another, to respect the sincerity of one another's opinions, to love and to care for one another.

London Yearly Meeting, 1968

Did you know First Day School is collecting food?

Please bring your canned goods—and anything that can be stored—for keeping the Neighborhood Service Center's pantry well stocked.

Inward Seeking, Outward Acts

The core of the Quaker tradition is a way of inward seeking which leads to outward acts of integrity and service. Friends are most in the Spirit when they stand at the crossing point of the inward and the outward life. And that is the intersection at which we find community. Community is a place where the connections felt in the heart make themselves known in bonds between people, and where the tuggings and pullings of those bonds keep opening up our hearts.

The Society of Friends can make its greatest contribution to community by continuing to be a religious society of corporate worship which opens itself to continuing revelation.

Parker J. Palmer: A Place Called Community,

Pendle Hill 212: 27, 1977

June 2004

NEWS FROM PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING
INTERIM MEETING SUMMARY

22 April 2004, Arch Street Meetinghouse,
Philadelphia

Editor's Note: The full minutes may be found at www.pym.org, or contact the Clerk of the Monthly Meeting or Interim Meeting representatives.

The meeting settled into worship at 6:00p.m. The clerk welcomed 3 new representatives, 2 substitutes, and 7 guests.

New Business

Priorities for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

- 1) Creating more visible and more hospitable Meeting communities,
- 2) Enabling community service and witness that expresses what is best in our faith,
- 3) Supporting religious education for children and adults.

At Yearly Meeting, we decided we needed to add Spiritual Nurture. Two Friends will work on this for us.

Nominating Committee Sue Makler (Abington), clerk of the Nominating Committee reported 3 resignations. Sue then suggested a way to resolve the right relationship between the Meeting on Worship and Ministry and the Worship and Care Standing Committee. The Nominating Committee will appoint members with panels to the Meeting on Worship and Ministry, and everyone will try to work out over time how they should be related.



Continuing Business

A. Yearly Meeting Policies: as stated in our Minutes, Clarkson Palmer has completed a list of all the policies adopted by Interim Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting over the last few years.

B. Job Description for the Advisory Committee: Gretchen Castle, PYM clerk, brought a suggested job description for the Advisory Committee which serves as "Governing Board" or "Executive Committee" for PYM. Friends were uncomfortable with reference to a document which has not been written, and might re-create the bad old days in PYM when decisions were made top down. How can some overworked staff and a few dedicated but scattered volunteers be responsible for the Big Picture and guiding the entire Yearly Meeting when they do not represent it. The job description was sent back for more work.

C. Role of Interim Meeting: How can we strengthen communication between our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings and Interim Meeting?

- 1) Some Meetings don't understand that Minutes have to go through a Quarter or a Standing Committee.
- 2) Orientation for new members of Interim Meeting will be strengthened.
- 3) Practical ways to use both paper and electronic technology were shared..

Business of Standing Committees:

General Services Standing Committee: New clerk, Patsy Hunt (Germantown), reported that Anne Moore (Valley), the former clerk, has stepped down. Friends minuted appreciation for her service.

Annual Fund: Elizabeth Foley reported more Friends are giving, but smaller amounts. We still need to raise \$160,000 to meet our goal of \$435,000. The phonathon will be held on two afternoons and two evenings this year, to remind those who have given in the past but not so far this year. Volunteers are still needed to staff the phones.

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Minute of Appreciation for Review of Fund Designations: George C (Skip) Colson, Jr, and Arthur Torelli have done an extensive and detailed review of all the funds now held by PYM. This is very worthwhile.

Clerk's Correspondence

Upper Susquehanna Quarter. requested that PYM provide a grant of \$148,990, and an interest-free loan to help complete the new building at Greenwood Friends School. This is in a poor area with an established pattern of Quaker outreach through the school. Would this set a precedent? What about all the other 42 Friends schools and approximately 90 health care facilities? How can we support all of these? After discussion, the request was referred to Education Standing Committee.

General Secretary's Report

Thom highlighted a plan from the National Council of Churches to bring pressure on the U.S. Administration to work with the United Nations rather than going-it-alone to resolve the conflict in Iraq.

Read the letter from the National Council of Churches USA on page 7.

Minutes of 26 February 2004 were revised and approved. Friends settled into worship and adjourned at 9 p.m. Chris Mahon, clerk. Susan White, recording clerk.



Customers and vendors examining items at the Carriage Shed Sale May 22

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Everyone Welcome

Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:00 PM

Sundays 10 – 11 AM

Meeting for Worship

Easton, Maryland 21601

405 South Washington Street

Third Haven Friends Meeting



Photo by Ralph Young